

REMARKS

The Applicant has received and reviewed the Official Action mailed on 26 June 2006 (the "Action"), and submits this paper as a fully-responsive reply thereto. The Applicant requests favorable consideration of this response at the earliest convenience of the Office.

Claims 1, 7, 15, 23, 30-33, 39 have been amended, as indicated above. Claims 1-48 remain in the application for consideration.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant traverses the Office's rejections and respectfully requests that the application be forwarded on to issuance.

Statement of Substance of Interview

At the outset, the undersigned expresses appreciation to Examiner Bonshock for the courtesies extended during a telephone interview on 7 September 2006. During the interview, the parties discussed a draft response submitted previously by the Applicant. Agreement was reached regarding the rejections based on 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as detailed further below. The parties also discussed possible approaches to overcoming the art-based rejections, but did not reach agreement on any specific claim language.

The § 112, 1st paragraph (Enablement) Rejection

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, as stated in Pages 6-7 of the Action at Paragraph 6. More specifically, the Action stated that neither the passage cited

previously by the Applicant, nor any other portion of the specification, provided adequate support for how exactly the keyword is “created” by a user. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

During the telephone interview referred to above, the Applicant understood that removing the language “created and” from claim 1 would overcome the § 112, 1st paragraph, rejection of claim 1. Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, and only to advance the prosecution of this matter, the Applicant has amended claim 1 accordingly.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112, 1st paragraph, enablement rejection of claim 1.

The § 103 Rejections

Rejections Citing MS, Newlin, and Ellis

As stated on Page 3 of the Action, claims 1-11, 15-29, 33-43, 47, and 48 stand rejected under § 103(a) as being obvious over the white paper entitled “Understanding Universal Plug and Play” (hereinafter “MS”), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,636,211 to Newlin, et al. (hereinafter, “Newlin”), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,771,317 to Ellis, et al. (hereinafter, “Ellis”).

Turning first to **independent Claim 1**, the Applicant has amended this claim to clarify features of the method, solely to advance prosecution of this matter. A portion of this claim as amended is reproduced here for convenience:

“receiving user input specifying at least one category of information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance, wherein the category is associated with at least one user-defined keyword ~~created and~~ entered by a user, wherein the user-defined keyword further specifies information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined keyword;”

The Applicant submits that the specification supports the above revisions, at least at page 25, line 5 through page 28, line 5.

Turning to the cited art, the Applicant agrees with the Office’s assessment that MS and Newlin fail to teach blocking of categories of information where the categories are associated with at least one user-defined keyword. However, the Office cites Ellis for the teaching missing from MS and Newlin, as follows from Pages 17-18 of the Action:

26. In response the examiner respectfully submits that Ellis teaches, in column 21, line 17 through column 22, line 10, a Parental Guidance system for blocking viewing of channels, and further teaches, in column 21, line 17 through column 22, line 54 and column 22, line 66 through column 23, line 8, blocking categories of information from display such as: items in a "Parental Guidance" category including user specifiable keywords representing sub-categories of Violent Content, Nudity, Language, Adult Situations, and Parental Discretion; items in a "Rating" category including user specifiable keywords representing sub-categories of PG, R, etc.; and items in a "Program" category where a user can specify specific programs to be blocked. The "Parental Guidance" category, "MPAA Rating" category, and "Program" category each have associated user-defined keywords associated with them further defining a category.

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office and, for the reasons discussed below, traverses the Office's rejections.

Ellis pertains generally to an electronic television program guide with remote product ordering. Based on the Applicant's review of Ellis, the Applicant submits that Ellis merely enables the user to select from a set of preexisting or predefined categories. Thus, Ellis' preexisting or predefined categories neither teach nor suggest a "user-defined keyword", as recited in claim 1. For example, Ellis neither teaches nor suggests any way for a user to define keywords such as the names of family members (e.g., Mom, Dad, Mike, and May, in the example device description page shown in Table 4 of the Applicant's specification), or the names of friends (e.g., Sarah, Julie, Doug, and Sue, in the same example device description page).

Additionally, Ellis provides a key lock feature including a "user-specified four digit code" in column 21, lines 5-10, and describes how the user may enter

this code using the field 304, in column 21, lines 45-50. However, this four-digit code neither teaches nor suggests a “user-defined keyword further specifies information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined keyword”. Ellis does not check whether available programming contains the four-digit code, but instead uses the four-digit code to control access to the programming.

Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, the combination of MS, Newlin, and Ellis does not teach or in any way suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1. On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, and Ellis do not support a § 103 rejection of claim 1, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 1.

Claims 2-6 and 47 depend from claim 1 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 1 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Turning to **independent Claim 7**, this claim recites a method of tuning an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 7 as indicated above to clarify further features of the recited subject matter.

The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 7 are similar those discussed with claim 1 above, and that the comments directed to claim 1 above apply equally to claim 7. More specifically, the Applicant’s comments regarding Ellis apply equally to claim 7.

On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, and Ellis do not support a § 103 rejection of claim 7. The Applicant thus requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 7.

Claims 8-11 depend from claim 7 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 7 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 7, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Turning to **independent claim 15**, this claim recites an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 15 as indicated above to clarify further features of the recited subject matter.

The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 15 are similar to the revisions made to claim 1 above. Thus, the comments directed above to claim 1 regarding Ellis apply equally to claim 15. More specifically, for at least the reasons discussed above, Ellis neither teaches nor suggests a “user-defined keyword that has been keyed in by a user”, as recited in claim 15. On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, and Ellis do not support a § 103 rejection of claim 15, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 15.

Claims 16-22 depend from claim 15 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 15 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 15, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Claim 23 recites an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 23 as indicated above to clarify further features of the recited subject matter. The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 23 are similar those discussed with claim 1 above, and that the comments directed to claim 1 above apply equally to claim 23.

On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, and Ellis do not support a § 103 rejection of claim 23, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 23.

Claims 24-29 depend from claim 23 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 23 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 23, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Turning to **independent claim 33**, this claim recites a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for tuning an information presentation appliance. Only to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, the Applicant has revised claim 33 as indicated above to clarify further features of the recited subject matter. The Applicant submits that the revisions to claim 33 are similar those discussed with claim 1 above, and that the comments directed to claim 1 above apply equally to claim 33.

On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, and Ellis do not support a § 103 rejection of claim 33, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 33.

Claims 34-38, and 48 depend from claim 33 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 33 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 33, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Turning to **independent claim 39**, this claim recites a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for tuning an information presentation appliance. The Applicant submits that claim 39 recites features similar to those discussed above with claims 1 and 15, and that the comments directed to those claims apply equally to claim 39. On at least this basis, MS, Newlin, and Ellis do not support a § 103 rejection of claim 39, and the Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 39.

Claims 40-43 depend from claim 39 and stand rejected on similar grounds. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 39 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 39, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Rejections Citing MS, Newlin, Ellis, and Dubal

As stated on Page 15 of the Action, claims 12-14, 30-32, and 44-46 stand rejected under § 103(a) as being obvious over MS, in view of Newlin, further in view of Ellis, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,711,630 to Dubal et al. (hereinafter "Dubal"). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the reasons set forth below.

Turning first to **claims 12-14**, these claims depend from independent claim 1. Without conceding that Dubal provides the teaching for which it is cited regarding claims 12-14, the Applicant submits that Dubal fails to provide the teaching or suggestion necessary to support a § 103 rejection of claim 1. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 1 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 1, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Turning next to **claims 30-32**, these claims depend from independent claim 23. Without conceding that Dubal provides the teaching for which it is cited regarding claims 30-32, the Applicant submits that Dubal fails to provide the teaching or suggestion necessary to support a § 103 rejection of claim 23. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 23 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 23 are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

Turning next to **claims 44-46**, these claims depend from independent claim 39. Without conceding that Dubal provides the teaching for which it is cited regarding claims 44-46, the Applicant submits that Dubal fails to provide the teaching or suggestion necessary to support a § 103 rejection of claim 39. Therefore, the comments directed above to claim 39 apply equally to these claims. Additionally, these claims recite features that, in combination with those recited in claim 39, are neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record, whether considered alone or in combination.

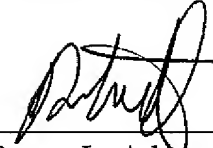
Conclusion

The Applicant submits that the cited art does not support § 103 rejections of the pending claims. If the Office's next anticipated action is to be anything other than issuance of a Notice of Allowability, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone call for the purpose of scheduling an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 26 SEPT 06

By: _____


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